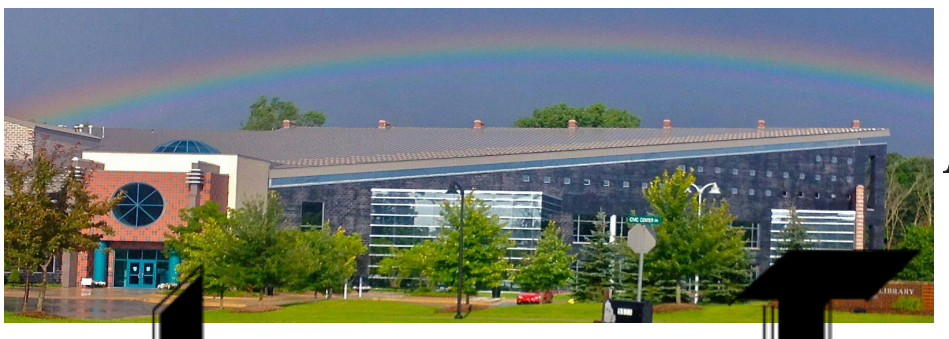


Library photography exhibit - *page 3*

The Eastern Echo

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 | Volume 141, Issue 04 Serving EMU and Ypsilanti since 1881

'Sex in the dark' encourages conversation on sexual health

Olivia Hendry
News Reporter

On September 4th, 2024, the Women's Resource Center, Campus Life, and Planned Parenthood Generation Action put on their third annual "Sex in the Dark" event in the Student Center ballroom. The night encouraged college students to learn about sex and healthy relationships from licensed therapists, sex educators, and other professionals.

College is a time of exploration and new experiences for many students. For some, this may mean discovering their sexuality and engaging in different sexual relationships. Because of this, Sex in the Dark was brought to Eastern Michigan students to educate on multiple aspects of safer sex in a fun and anonymous setting.

When students arrived at the event, they were greeted by canvas pouches and masquerade masks ready to be decorated. The decorative masks were a new addition this year, adding to the anonymity for curious attendees.

Upon entering the ballroom, students were soon washed in darkness. Purple and pink lights lit up a few key spots in the room; the panelist's stage, limited spots on the walls, and the vendors' booths. The way to their tables was slightly illuminated by the small, flickering, electronic candles and glow sticks sitting amidst the table's decorations.

The overhead lights came on periodically, allowing students to get refreshments and speak to vendors. Among the vendors was Reset Brain and Body, Planned Parenthood of Michigan, and Janet's Dungeon, a sex shop in Wyandotte. The booths had free stickers, informational pamphlets, and students could even purchase a variety of sex toys and clothing from Janet's.

Courtesy of Kimberly Ferrell

As the night began and the panelists filed out onto the stage, attendees began submitting anonymous questions via the QR code present at their tables. Throughout the night, each of the seven panelists took time to answer questions from a wide range of topics. They discussed how to deal with hypersexuality, how to prepare yourself to have sex, and everything in between.

The WRC wanted to give students a safe and comfortable space to learn about not just sexual health, but emotional, physical, and mental wellbeing. Kimberly Ferrell, the new WRC coordinator and a professor in teacher education at EMU, was the host of Sex in the Dark, and worked to center this idea throughout the event.

"A large part of having good overall health, both mentally and sexually, is about , knowing one's self worth, knowing who you are, what you want and how to effectively communicate this," Ferrell said. "It's also important for students to know their own self capacity for sex, intimacy and relationships."

Ferrell believes that sex education events are extremely important for college students, as it helps them protect their own health. Making sure students are knowledgeable about consent, safe communication styles, and healthy relationships, will greatly benefit them going forward, through their college journey and beyond.

"We care about the whole student, and their life experiences do matter, and we are here to help guide them to better life outcomes, academic and social success at EMU," Ferrell said.

Anne Solari, a panelist and licensed sex therapist, hopes that students came away from this event with a better understanding of themselves as sexual beings. Once a nervous young adult themselves, they've experienced the pressures that college can place on people in terms of sexual experiences. Now, they want students to be comfortable, no matter their starting points.

"The pressure to have sex, the pressure to conform to expectations is huge at that age. I remember dealing with a lot of that myself, and making poor choices at times because of feeling like that's what I had to do to fit in," Solari said. "We need to take away the shame of having sex, and we need to take away the shame of not having sex. We need to normalize the conversation and be less weird about it."

This was the aim of Sex in the Dark; to normalize sexual conversations, and allow sexual questions to be answered by real life experts in real time.

Like how much of the conversations were about boundaries and safe communication, Sex in the Dark implemented their own safety measures throughout the night. Attendants were asked to sign a Community Agreement and Accountability Form before entering the event. The form told students of the shared responsibilities that all attendees had to create a safe, caring, and respectful environment. This included not speaking over panelists or laughing at the questions or answers present, being open to hearing about new experiences or ideas, and taking responsibility for your actions.

The goal of this form, according to Ferrell, was to foster the safe and welcoming environment she had hoped to bring during the event.

"Having a community agreement and accountability form , was very critical to creating a compassionate, respectful and caring environment, [and] holds individuals responsible and accountable for their words, actions and ethical behaviors. That is very important in the overall scope of our campus community," Ferrell said.

Additionally, Officer Pat McGill was present and spoke during the event, encouraging students to take advantage of the safety resources on campus. These resources include self defense classes, the SEEUS hotline, and themselves, being a resource for students to report abuse and mistreatment.

Ferrell and Solari both hoped that students walked away from Sex in the Dark having more knowledge on safe sex, healthy relationships, and mutual understanding. They both hope that students will continue these conversations, and seek out help from experts when needed.

"If people have questions, reach out to the experts. Whether it be the experts at Planned Parenthood, whether it be sex therapists ... Reach out to those experts," Solari said.

Local artist of the month: Nevaeh Ford

Madison Cantrell
Arts Editor
Cellar Roots Editor-in-Chief

Nevaeh Ford is a sophomore at Eastern Michigan University studying fashion marketing and simulation, animation, and gaming.

"I grew up drawing, I would draw every day," Ford said. "I got a drawing tablet for my home computer and then I moved to an iPad and I just kept drawing."

As an artist, Ford focuses on digital drawing and character design and is most inspired by pop culture and the world around her.

"I have done a lot of illustration, but I want to go more into character design with my major and minor," Ford said. "I want to learn how to 3D model characters, and eventually design characters for video games."

Additionally, Ford is the founder and president of Spectrum of Color, vice president of S.T.Y.L.E, and an EMU Campus Life coach.

"Last year, as a freshman, I didn't really know anybody. Then, I went to EagleFest and joined S.T.Y.L.E. Everybody was super welcoming and I found the community that gave me the confidence to be myself on campus," Ford said. "S.T.Y.L.E kickstarted everything here on campus for me."

Ford's role in S.T.Y.L.E played a part in the creation of Spectrum of Color and his involvement with Campus Life.

"As a queer person of color, I saw the Black community at EMU thriving and I wanted to include a part of us [queer people] in that community."

EMU's Spectrum of Color plans to collaborate with other student organizations to create a safe space for queer people of color on campus.

"I'm really excited because it was a long process, but I think it's going to pay off," Ford said.

As a new Campus Life coach, Ford, along with the other coaches, hosted the terrarium building event, DreamSprout, and will host the upcoming event, Break Out of Your Bubble, on September 25 in the EMU Lakehouse.

View more of Ford's art on Instagram, @nevxies, and keep up with Spectrum of Color and S.T.Y.L.E on Instagram, @color.emu and @ style_emu.

Courtesy of Nevaeh Ford

The Eastern Echo

The Eastern Echo serves the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti-area communities as an independent student-operated newspaper. Founded in 1881 as The Normal News, The Echo distributes weekly printed editions on campus and throughout the surrounding community during the fall and winter academic semesters; and publishes year-round on the web. Contents are subject to copyright and may not be reproduced without prior written consent of the newspaper.

COPYRIGHT @ 2024 (The Eastern Echo)
All rights reserved.

www.EasternEcho.com

THE ECHO MISSION

The Eastern Echo informs the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti community by highlighting newsworthy content in a fair, accurate and timely manner.

HOW TO REACH US

The Eastern Echo Fall 2024 Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief:
Ameera Salman
editor@easternecho.com

Managing Editor:
Emma Owens
managing@easternecho.com

Sports Editor:
Elena Davis
sports@easternecho.com

Podcast Editor:
Alex Kreps
podcast@easternecho.com

Arts Editor,
Cellar Roots Editor-in-Chief:
Madison Cantrell
cellarroots@easternecho.com

Design Chief:
Rylee Curley
design@easternecho.com

Photo Editor:
Max Taylor
photo@easternecho.com

Digital Editor:
Julez DeShetler
digital@easternecho.com

Copy Editors:
Noah Cimaroli
Allie Beecher
copyeditor@easternecho.com

Business Manager:
Aidan Bonney
advertising@easternecho.com

Student Media Advisor:
Christine Uthoff
advisor@easternecho.com

PICK UP A COPY

Print editions published Tuesdays from late August to early May are available in racks or on tables in all academic buildings on the EMU campus, and at dozens of businesses in the community.

Among those businesses are:

- Savvy Sliders on Washtenaw Ave.
- Basil Babes on Cross St.
- Sweetwaters on Cross St.
- Lucky Garden on N. Huron River
- HK China One on W. Cross St.
- Gora's Grill on W. Cross St.
- Tatted Up on Perrin St.

CORRECTIONS

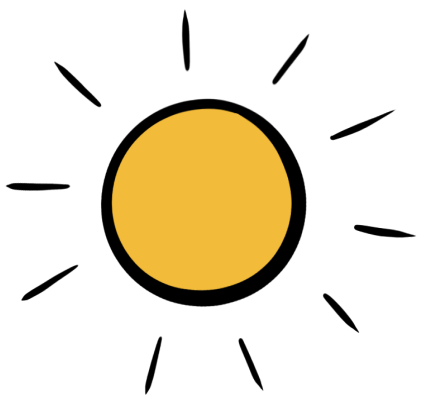
The Eastern Echo corrects mistakes. If we got it wrong, we want to make it right. Errors should be brought to the attention of the editor in chief by email: editor@easternecho.com.

Weekly Calendar

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
"CLASS OF HER OWN" DOCUMENTARY FILM SCREENING STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM 4 - 6 P.M.	PROCRASTINATION ELIMINATION WORKSHOP WITH THE HOLMAN SUCCESS CENTER HALLE LIBRARY G09 6 - 7:30 P.M. IAN MAKSIN "SONGS OF A VAGABOND CELLO" YPSILANTI PERFORMANCE SPACE 7 - 8:30 P.M.	DEPOT TOWN CRUISE NIGHTS EAST CROSS ST. 5-9 P.M. .	IN TRUST, TERPSICHORE COLLECTIVE AUTUMN CONCERT RIVERSIDE ARTS CENTER 7:30 P.M. FIRESIDE STORY TIME INDEPENDENCE LAKE 6 - 8 P.M.	FOOTBALL VS JAKSONVILLE STATE RYNEARSON STADIUM 7 P.M. 2ND ANNUAL YPSI MRS. ROPER ROMP VARIOUS LOCATIONS 4 P.M.

Scoop's Forecast

83°	54°	Tuesday, Sept. 10	
85°	55°	Wednesday, Sept. 11	
86°	57°	Thursday, Sept. 12	
85°	59°	Friday, Sept. 13	
81°	59°	Saturday, Sept. 14	
82°	60°	Sunday, Sept. 15	
78°	59°	Monday, Sept. 16	



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

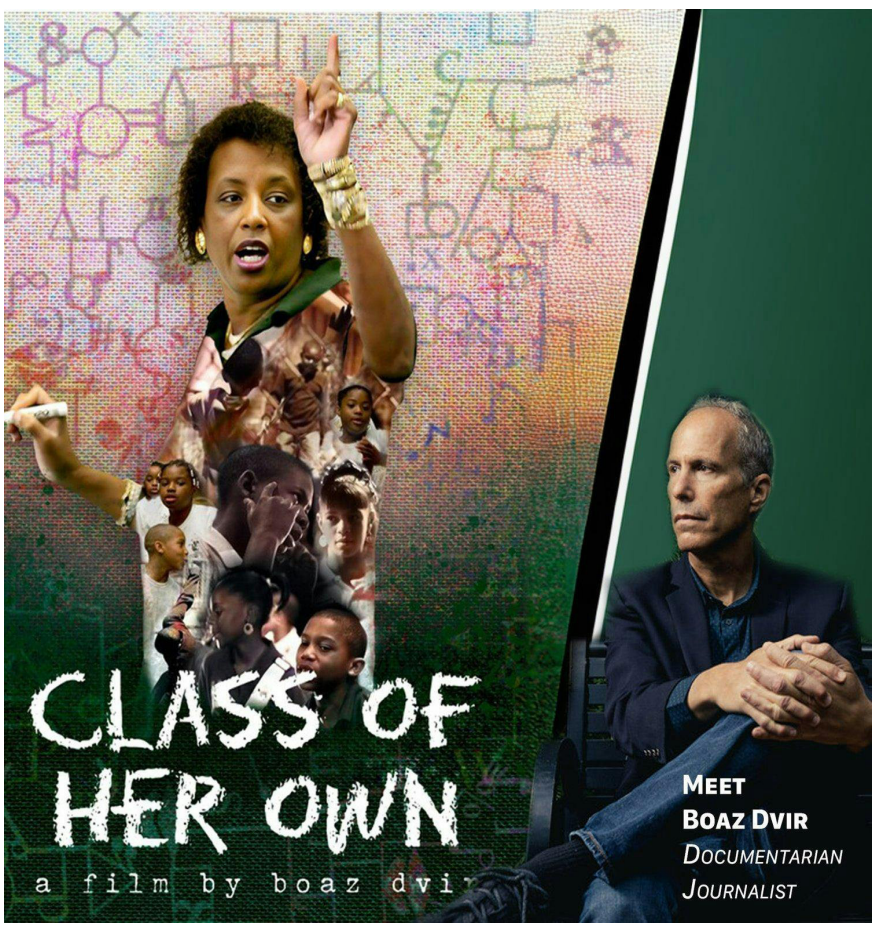
'A Class of Her Own' film talk comes to EMU

Max Smith
Staff Writer

This week at Eastern, the Ann Arbor Black Film Festival is partnering with Eastern Michigan University's Department of Africology and African American Studies to bring students a special screening of the documentary "A Class of Her Own," directed by Boaz Dvir.

Narrated by Tamara Tunie, who was a Best Supporting Actress Nominee in the 2013 Black Reel Awards, the documentary "A Class of Her Own" tells the story of Gloria Jean Merriex and the transformation of her elementary school classes in East Gainesville, Florida. After the school received a failing grade for the high-stakes Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, Merriex gained notoriety in Duval County for bucking the trend and developing her own curriculum.

Merriex taught her students by integrating song, dance and step routines into subjects such as math and reading, leading a crusade to turn her school's results around. Chronicling her journey as she strove to overcome the issues plaguing her and her students' school community, the documentary features interviews from the principal at Duval Elementary, some of Merriex's students, as well as several doctorate researchers at the University of Florida as Merriex works to get her students an "A" on the standardized tests in a little under a year.



"Class of Her Own," is about a teacher who used song and dance to rewrite the curriculum at her school in Florida. *Courtesy of the Ann Arbor Black Film Festival*

"A Class of Her Own" will be screening in the Eastern Michigan Student Center Ballroom on Tuesday, Sept. 10, and will include a Q&A panel afterwards with the documentary's film director, Dvir; Eastern associate professor Carmen McCallum, who is serving as EMU's associate dean for faculty and community; and Viktor Okafor and Wendy Burke, who lead the university's departments of Africology and Teacher Education.

The panel will be moderated by Chris Anderson, founding director of the Ann Arbor Black Film Festival. This event has been approved by Eastern for learning beyond the classroom credit, and courtesy refreshments will be available. Seating is limited.

The Ann Arbor Black Film Festival will be screening other films this fall, including "Breaking Boundaries," a documentary about the only black contestant on the U.S. 2020 Rhythmic Gymnastics team, Nastasya Generalova.

CELLAR ROOTS, EMU'S FINE ARTS MAGAZINE, IS PUBLISHING ITS 51ST VOLUME!

CELLAR ROOTS IS LOOKING FOR:

ASSISTANT EDITOR
OUTREACH COORDINATOR
SUBMISSIONS COORDINATOR
COPY EDITORS
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

JOIN OUR TEAM!

SEND YOUR RESUME AND PORTFOLIO TO: CELLARROOTS@EASTERNECHO.COM

Ypsilanti photography exhibit honors Underground Railroad

Gray Connor
Staff Writer

Years in the making, a project dedicated to the memory of those involved in The Underground Railroad launched in September as a photography exhibit at the Ypsilanti Library.

"Through Darkness to Light: Photographs Along the Underground Railroad," opened Sept. 1 at the library's Whittaker Road branch, 5577 Whittaker Road in Ypsilanti Township. The exhibit closes Oct. 20.

They illustrate not only our area's role in helping people reach freedom in the north, but they are a very early and powerful expression of civil rights," Library Assistant Director Julianne Smith said of the photos, in an announcement on the exhibit.

A network of routes and hidden pathways, the Underground Railroad was a path enslaved African Americans could use to escape toward northern free states. While the exact number of individuals who used the network between 1800 and1865 is unknown, it is theorized that the total is more than 100,000.

Because of the importance of keeping the network secret, few records exist that outline the pathways and or credit the people who coordinated the routes. "Through Darkness to Light," a work by American artist and photographer Janine Michna-Bales, was designed to document both, and to foster remembrance of the railroad's history.

"Because of the nature of it, there isn't all that much that we know about the Underground Railroad," one of the library employees said about the exhibit. "She wanted to encapsulate what that experience would have been like, by taking photos of what they may have seen."

Michna-Bales' collection of photos come from her travels along the pathways historians believe were used by those wading the routes of the Underground Railroad. She did years of research, covering about 2,000 miles of territory, library administrators said.

Some of those sites are in Michigan.

"Michigan has over 20 sites highlighting the people and places that were part of the Underground Railroad, including several here in Washtenaw County," Smith said.

Not only do Michna-Bales' photographs help visitors imagine the world these people lived through, the exhibit acts as a reminder of the distances escaping slaves traveled, exhibit organizers said. It's estimated that some routes of the Underground Railroad were as long as 1,000 miles; the vast majority were traveled by foot.

"Through Darkness to Light" is not Michna-Bales' first project related to the struggles of civil rights and freedom movements. In 2020, an issue of Smithsonian Magazine featured her article: "Standing Together: Inez Milholland's Final Campaign for Women's Suffrage," highlighting a series of photographs telling the story of Milholland, a leading women's suffragist, and her efforts

to gain equal rights for American women.

During the Underground Railroad photo exhibit, the Ypsilanti library will host a number of events and performances related to the history of the railroad. Those events include:

Harriet Tubman Herself, with Chris Dixon: At 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, actress and singer Chris Dixon will perform a one-woman show as Tubman, known as the Moses of her People, at the Whittaker Road branch.

This photo on display at Ypsilanti Library's Whittaker Road branch captures a place walked by those traversing the Underground Railroad. *Courtesy of Jeanine Michna-Bales*

African-American Quilt History in Michigan: At 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17, in this virtual presentation, quilt scholar Marsha MacDowell highlights stories of quilting in Michigan, from Idlewild to Detroit and from the time of slavery to today. Audience members will be introduced to the Black Diaspora Quilt History Project. For more information on accessing the webinar, visit the library's event page.

Black Men Read Book Party: At 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, members of the Black Men Read group will feature stories from the African diaspora and a hands-on art activity during this family book party at the Superior Township library branch, 1900 Harris Road.

Navigating by Stars: At 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, Buddy Stark, the planetarium manager from the University of Michigan's Museum of Natural History, will guide his audience in star navigation. Participants will be able to create their own planisphere at the workshop, which will be in the Whittaker Road branch community room.

The Underground Railroad and Me: At 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, community members will explore Michigan history, dispel myths and present opportunities to deepen participants' connections to the people and stories of the Underground Railroad, at the Whittaker Road branch.

Journey to Freedom, A Local Underground Railroad Tour: From 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13, participants can join a bus tour offered by the library and the African American Cultural and Historical Museum of Washtenaw County and hear stories about places people drive past every day. Led by docent Deborah Meadows, the tour starts and ends at the Whittaker Road library and includes some of the most important African-American history sites in the county.

What's the move? Sept. 10-14

Hunter Johnstone
News Reporter

Check out these events happening on and around Eastern Michigan University's campus this week.

Sorority Recruitment - Sept. 9

Explore Panhellenic Sorority life on campus by learning about the seven chapters and participating in activities. The event runs all day at at the third floor of the Student Center.

"Class of Her Own" Film Screening - Sept. 10

Catch a viewing of "Class of Her Own," a documentary by Boaz Dvir, and the following Q&A. The event is in the Student Center Ballroom from 4 to 6 p.m.

Procrastination Elimination with the Holman Success Center - Sept. 11

Improve time management and stop procrastination with this workshop. The event is in Halle Library room G09 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Ian Maksin "Songs of a Vagabond Cello" - Sept. 11

Hear a unique fusion of the cello performed by Ian Maksin at the Ypsilanti Performance Space. The cost ranges from $20 to $40 and the performance runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Depot Town Cruise Nights - Sept. 12

Check out classic cars while exploring the Depot Town Area from 5 to 9 p.m.

In Trust, Terpsichore Collective Autumn Concert - Sept 13

Watch contemporary dance performances at The Riverside Arts Center. The price ranges from $15 to $22 and the performance begins at 7:30 p.m.

Fireside Story Time - Sept. 13

Gather round the fire and hear stories at Independence Lake while enjoying refreshments. The event will cost $10 per household and goes from 6 to 8 p.m. Register here.

Football vs Jacksonville State - Sept. 14

See EMU take on Jacksonville State in football at Rynearson Stadium from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Purchase tickets here.

2nd Annual Ypsi Mrs. Roper Romp - Sept. 14

Go to a groovy pub crawl through Downtown and Depot Town for free. The event begins at 4 p.m. Here is a map of locations.

Want the top weekly top stories delivered right to your inbox every Friday?

Subscribe to The Eastern Echo newsletter!

Holman Success Center will host 'Procrastination Elimination' workshop

Colae Eason
News Reporter

Holman Success Center is hosting a procrastination elimination workshop on September 11 at 6 p.m. in Halle Library with the goal of helping students learn different techniques to overcome procrastination and improve time management.

Graduate Assistant for Holman Success Center and Holman Success Coach, Caitlin Mahoney, came up with the workshop in response to a common issue she heard from students.

"The most common question I get is 'I have ADHD, I don't know how to study, what should I do?'" Mahoney said.

Professors tell students to simply look over their notes but that may not work for a student's learning style or fit into their schedule, Mahoney said.

"I wanted to develop a workshop offering some alternative study skills that people may not have heard before," Mahoney said.

Mahoney says these skills may not guarantee that students will get everything done, but are meant to improve motivation and time management.

"I want students to work smarter, not harder," Mahoney said. "Sometimes, you can study for three hours and get nothing done but you can also study for half an hour and get a lot done."

The workshop isn't solely about eliminating procrastination, but it also focuses on managing your time wisely once you overcome procrastination, according to Mahoney.

"I had a really wonderful teacher in sixth grade who taught us how to plan out our days and utilize study time," Mahoney said. "I still use the strategies he taught me when I was 11 or 12."

The workshop will consist of different ways to build motivation and momentum, study effectively, and avoid procrastination, according to Mahoney.

"We're gonna talk about body doubling, reteaching, and other retrieval techniques," Mahoney said.

Mahoney also plans to emphasize the importance of taking breaks when studying.

"Giving yourself space and time is really important and overlooked," Mahoney said. "It's actually better for you to take breaks because you can study effectively in less time,"

Mahoney also wants to make students aware of all of the resources offered by the Holman Success Center.

Holman Success Center offers tutoring, study tables with rewards, and multiple workshops throughout the semester that tackle subjects such as job interviews, financial aid, using Linkedin, and more, according to Mahoney.

Mahoney also would like to emphasize the role of success coaches offered on campus.

"Every student on campus has a success coach," Mahoney said. "Whether they know it or not, we are here to help them. They can schedule meetings and have someone be like their personal trainer for college,"

Mahoney's goal for the workshop is for students to feel empowered when approaching school work.

"I want students to feel like school work isn't so daunting and terrifying," Mahoney said. "Making things accessible for students is my main goal."

Statewide summit aims to increase student voter turnout

Jaida Hawkins
Staff Writer

The Campus Vote Project is hosting its seventh annual Michigan Student Voting Summit with the Michigan Department of State and Wayne State University.

The summit will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, at Wayne State University's Student Center in Detroit, Michigan.

Young adults ages 18 through 29 are the newest members of our democracy.

Fair Elections Center's Campus Vote Project helps promote the importance of voting for young students in every state.

Fair Elections Center is a national, nonpartisan voting rights and election reform organization based in Washington, D.C.

The Campus Vote Project works with universities, community colleges, faculty, students, election officials, and community partners from high schools to reduce barriers and advance student voting participation.

Some barriers to registering and voting are young adults moving more often, less likely to have a driver's license, and less likely to be contacted directly by political campaigns than older age groups. Other barriers include missing deadlines or lacking information as reasons to not register to vote. The Campus Vote Project intends to help change these tendencies and continue to grow the voting rates of young adults.

The summit is a free event. Food will be provided for guests. It will also be live streamed for those in attendance who cannot physically make it. Guests can register for the summit online.

Cellar Roots, EMU's Fine Arts Magazine, is publishing its 51st Volume!

LEVELS OF SUPPORT

SPONSOR CELLAR ROOTS!

The Canopy
- Shoutout in Volume 51
- 1 Free Copy of Volume 51

$250

The Trunk
- Shoutout in Volume 51
- 5 Free Copies of Volume 51
- Half Page Ad in Volume 51

$500

The Roots
- Shoutout in Volume 51
- 10 Free Copies of Volume 51
- Full Page Ad in Volume 51

$1000

advisor@easternecho.com

Academic support resources for EMU students

Allie Beecher
Copy Editor

As the semester begins, many students may find themselves feeling overwhelmed by coursework and deadlines. Some might find themselves struggling to balance academics with activities, work, and other obligations. Fortunately, Eastern Michigan University offers academic support services that can help students overcome academic struggles and perform better in their classes.

Holman Success Center

One major academic resource for students is the Holman Success Center, which offers workshops and tutoring. The workshops help students learn about financial aid opportunities and improve their academic skills. In addition to being educational, these workshops can also be fun. For example, on Sept. 25, the Holman Success Center will offer a game night where students will get to have fun while learning about financial aid opportunities and scholarships. Learn more about these opportunities here.

The Holman Success Center also offers drop-in tutoring. If students are stuck on a tough textbook chapter or a challenging assignment, they can bring their questions to a tutor at the Holman Success Center. For instance, this fall semester, the center will offer drop-in assistance with several biology and chemistry classes in 101 Strong Hall on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. To learn more about drop-in tutoring, visit this link.

Students may also benefit from meeting with a Holman success coach. Success coaches are staff and graduate assistants who can advise students about their academic plans and help them improve their study techniques. Te'Nia Richardson, a senior majoring in Environmental Science, had an excellent experience working with her Holman success coach. "I found it very helpful," she explained. "It was very easy to just schedule a meeting with [my coach]." Richardson's coach was able to offer advice about a difficult class and her academic path. "[My] coach really guided me...which I thought was really helpful." Visit this link to learn more about success coaching.

Math Lab

Math and statistics classes can be particularly challenging for many students. Fortunately, EMU offers free in-person and virtual tutoring through the Mathematics Tutoring Center. Students can go to 411 Pray-Harrold to take advantage of in-person drop-in tutoring from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students can also book an appointment for Zoom tutoring, which is available Monday through Thursday from 8 to 10:30 p.m.

In addition to helping students succeed in their math classes, the Mathematics Tutoring Center can help them prepare for the ALEKS Math Placement Assessment and standardized exams, including the GRE and GMAT. Math assessments and standardized tests can be intimidating, but EMU is committed to helping students do their best work. Learn more about the Mathematics Tutoring Center here. Students can also reach out to Sara Schultz, the center's coordinator, at sschult5@emich.edu.

University Writing Center

The University Writing Center is committed to providing all EMU students, faculty, and staff with high-quality writing support. Students can meet with University Writing Center consultants in person or over Zoom. They can also have written feedback consultations in which they submit their writing to a consultant and receive written feedback on it.

University Writing Center consultants include part-time lecturers and graduate assistants, but the center also recognizes that some students may feel more comfortable talking with a peer. That is where undergraduate peer writing consultants come in. Emilee Breitner, a senior majoring in Secondary Education, recognizes the importance of peer writing support. "As a peer writing consultant, I have loved being able to connect with fellow students when they come to the writing center," Breitner said. "Coming to work with undergraduate or graduate consultants at the writing center can be more comfortable for students who are nervous to talk to their professor or who might have a hard time understanding the assignment directions they've been given. We can be a stepping stone to figuring out how to open up that communication with professors as well."

Breitner is confident that the University Writing Center can provide resources and support to everyone on campus. "Students of all writing types and experience levels come to us for help, and I truly believe it's valuable for anyone to come and see us or make an appointment online."

The beginning of any new semester can be a stressful time for students. However, the Holman Success Center, Math Lab, and University Writing Center are just some of the resources available on campus. EMU is committed to supporting its students, and with that support, all Eastern Eagles can spread their wings and soar.

THE EASTERN ECHO CLASSIFIEDS

REPORTERS WANTED
Have a desire to be where the action is? Write about events from EagleFest to national elections? Record history as it happens? Then join the staff writing team at The Eastern Echo! The independent student-managed news team is seeking reporters to help cover campus and community events. This position pays minimum wage, per article submitted. Send an email, resume, and cover letter to managing@easternecho.com.

LOST OR FOUND SOMETHING?
Use The Eastern Echo Classifieds to message fellow students about lost and found items. Students using an emich.edu email to set up a classified account can advertise at no cost during the fall semester. Visit EasternEcho.com, go to the Classifieds tab, and create an account to file your classified ad message.

PAGE DESIGNER WANTED
Like creating interesting designs with photos and words? Know how to use InDesign, or want to learn? Then join the design team at The Eastern Echo! The independent student-managed news team is seeking page designers for the 2024-25 academic year. The position pays minimum wage and takes from five to 10 hours a week, depending on workload. To apply, send a resume, cover letter, and design work examples to advisor@EasternEcho.com

MAGAZINE STAFF WANTED
Eastern Michigan University's student-produced literacy magazine, Cellar Roots, is seeking content editors and designers for the 2024- 25 academic year. The team, operating as a student organization, will produce and publish the 51st edition of the literary magazine, which includes both visual and literacy arts created by students. Responsibilities include acquiring and curating a collection of student-produced works, coordinating with other student media groups, and organizing the selection of content and publication of the magazine. To apply, send a resume and cover letter explaining your interests and ideas for the magazine to cellarroots@easternecho.com. Applications close Oct.15, 2024.

PLACE CLASSIFIEDS FOR FREE
As a student or staff member at Eastern Michigan University, you can place a classified ad for free using your emich.edu email. Visit EasternEcho.com, go to the Classifieds tab, and click the Post Classifies button. Create and account, and create your classified. NOTE: The Eastern Echo reserves the right to deny publication of inappropriate or incorrect content.

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS WANTED
Do you have an artistic bent? Do you like flexing those creative muscles? Do you know how to use Canva or Illustrator, or want to learn to use graphics tools? Join the design team at The Eastern Echo! The independent student-managed news team is seeking graphic designers for the 2024-25 academic year. The position pays minimum wage and takes from five to 10 hours a week, depending on workload. To apply, send a resume, cover letter, and design work examples to design@EasternEcho.com.

EMU receives MAC award

Jack Monk
Sports Reporter

The EMU Department of Athletics was recently selected to win the 1-MAC Institution Award from the last school year in 2023-2024.

Last year, the University of Buffalo won the 2022-2023 award. This is the first time Eastern has received the honor.

Each year, the Mid-American Conference comes together in Cleveland, Ohio, to figure out what university stands out, not only in athletics but also in grade point average, determination, inclusion, and diversity. The conference consists of 12 full-time members who take part in 23 sports in the MAC conference.

This all falls under the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging initiative, made up of 18 members, including student-athletes, coaches, and athletic staff.

The committee aims to highlight all the good that comes from student-athletes. The award looks at all the college students in the MAC Conference to measure success in these areas.

EMU student-athletes recorded 6,443 hours of community service within the last school year, contributing to their award.

The award also highlights the mental health aspect based on the struggles of being a college athlete. EMU athletes' participation in the MAC Impact & Excellence Program led the MAC conference, leading the conference with 187 sessions in the MACS Impact & Excellence Program.

Sam Peterson receives MAC 'Runner Of The Week' honors

Hugh Thorp
Sports Reporter

Sam Peterson (Charlevoix, Mich.) has been looking for a career moment in his time at Eastern Michigan, and he found it in the first race of his junior year.

Peterson covered the 3.1-mile 5-kilometer course at the Jeff Drenth Memorial Invitational in 14 minutes and 56 seconds to come in third place overall at the meet.

The result comes from a meet last year, when he was 23 seconds slower at 15:19. Along with Peterson, Eastern Michigan's men's race had two other athletes place in the top five, including Lachlan Cornelius (Queensland, Brisbane, Australia) and Ty Dailey (Phoenix, Maryland).

Both runners had times of under 15 minutes for Eastern Michigan. The Eagles won the men's race and took second place in the women's race. The scores were 31 for the men and 38 for the women.

Eastern Michigan had three runners finish in the top 10 in the women's race. These included Marta Moreno (Wassenaar, Netherlands), Lucy Jones (Haverhill, England), and Anita Zaro (Timisoara, Romania), who had times of 17:36, 18:11, and 18:20, which were good enough for second, fifth, and eighth place for the race.

The meet took place at Shepherd High School in Shepherd, Michigan, about 10 miles from the Central Michigan University campus, which was the host of this meet with temperatures in the mid-80s. Eight schools competed in this meet, including Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan, Michigan State, Cornerstone, Lansing Community College, Grace Christian, Alma College, and Concordia.

Up Next

Eastern Michigan will travel to Kalamazoo on Sept. 20 for the George Dales Invitational, hosted by Western Michigan. The meet will start at 10 a.m. ET.

You can visit The Eastern Echo's website for more Eastern Michigan cross-country team coverage.

Soccer kicks off 2024 season with early success under Taylor Clarke

Elena Davis
Sports Editor

Eastern Michigan University soccer has entered a new era under head coach Taylor Clarke, marking its best start since 1999. The Eagles, now 4-1 this season, have shown impressive early success, reflecting Clarke's strategic changes and passionate leadership.

Early Success and its Significance

The Eagles' journey to a 4-0 start was highlighted by a 1-0 victory over Purdue Fort Wayne on Aug. 29, thanks to senior Maddie O'Farrell's 17th-minute goal. This early success is not just a number for Clarke and his team but a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Clarke shared, "I think especially to the team. It means everything...for this program to be able to put themselves in that category...to know that our seniors are moving it forward...I think it means the world to them."

He emphasized that despite the absence of guaranteed outcomes, the team's commitment is now bearing fruit. Clarke's emphasis on hard work and resilience has been a driving force, inspiring the players to continue striving for excellence.

Strategic Changes and Team Identity

One of Clarke's primary changes has been the team's mentality and approach to competition.

"The mentality has been the biggest piece...being people who compete every single day...using it as an opportunity to get better," Clarke noted.

The Eagles have adopted a style focused on controlling possession and creating high-quality chances rather than numerous, less effective shots. Clarke's strategy includes a high-pressing defense to regain possession quickly and capitalize on opportunities in the attacking half. These adjustments and a strong collective identity have contributed significantly to the team's early successes.

Goals and Ambitions

Looking forward, Clarke has clear and ambitious goals for the team. "Our number one goal is to win every single game," he stated. While this might seem ambitious to some, Clarke believes that aiming high is essential for achieving greatness. The goal is not only to compete, but to inspire and engage fans, making them proud of the brand of soccer the Eagles display, especially at home.

Coaching Philosophy and Experience

Clarke brings a wealth of experience to Eastern Michigan, having previously coached at various institutions, including Carroll University, Bowling Green State University, and Ashland University. Compared to men's, his approach to coaching women's soccer highlights a preference for the collective team spirit and the absence of ego issues.

"Coaching women is way more fun ... it's much easier to talk about the 'we,'" Clarke said. "There's a lot more belief in the collective."

His excitement about leading the EMU program stems from the team's passion and growth potential.

"The most exciting part about where we're at in the season is that I don't know if we're playing our best soccer yet," Clarke said.

This sentiment reflects his belief in the team's potential and his commitment to pushing them to achieve their best.

Future Vision

Looking ahead, Clarke envisions a dual focus for the program: providing an exceptional experience for student-athletes and competing for championships.

He emphasized, "We want to give people the best experience as a student-athlete...as well as build on who they are as a human being."

Clarke aims to balance competitive success with personal growth, ensuring players leave EMU with valuable experiences and skills for future endeavors.

As Clarke continues to shape the Eastern Michigan soccer program, his leadership and vision are already making a significant impact. With a solid start to the season and a clear roadmap for the future, the Eagles are poised to build on their early success and strive for more significant achievements in the coming months.

Up Next

The Eagles will regroup and return to action on Sept. 12 against Valparaiso University. After a brief break, Eastern Michigan looks to bounce back and build on their promising start to the season.

Gomez sets record in defeat against Huskies

Jack Monk
Sports Reporter

Eastern Michigan had a rare opportunity to face the Washington Huskies on Sept. 7, 2024, who were the 2024 College National Champions runner-up. Although Washington won 30-9, the game had highlights, including Jesus Gomez breaking a school record by connecting on a 57-yard field goal, surpassing a mark held by only two previous players. Despite the loss, there were several positives from EMU's performance against Washington.

Washington began the game with a punt, and though Will Rogers missed his first pass, he quickly connected on two more. On their next attempt to punt, EMU's special teams made a big play, blocking the punt and giving the Eagles possession.

Eastern Michigan started the first quarter strong, with Snyder running for 6 yards. Eight minutes into the quarter, EMU gained 29 yards, and Snyder made key passes to Allen, setting up a field goal that put the Eagles ahead 3-0 to end the first quarter. A fumble allowed Eastern to showcase a solid defensive effort while Snyder kept the offense moving, refusing to back down. However, Washington responded in the second quarter, scoring a touchdown and adding an extra point with six minutes remaining, shifting the momentum.

Washington led 7-3 with Gomez adding three points for the Eagles, bringing the total to 9. A pass by Washington for 13 yards and another for 14 yards brought the score to 14-6. At the end of the second quarter, our Eagles displayed strong defense, leading to a challenge after a fumble. Snyder passed to Reese for 6 yards. The next play allowed Snyder to run. Subsequent plays saw the Eagles blocking passes from Washington. With 54 seconds remaining, Washington scored a touchdown and a field goal, taking the lead 21-6 into halftime. Washington extended their lead to 27-6 in the third quarter with another touchdown. Despite a struggle to gain yards, Washington scored three more points with a field goal. As the fourth quarter began, Mimms faced difficulties running, and Snyder, after being sacked, struggled with successful passes. Washington scored a field goal, securing a 30-point victory. Gomez contributed a field goal, bringing the Eagles' total to 9. The 57-yard field goal marked the second-longest kick against the Huskies since 1977. The game concluded with a score of 30-9 in favor of Washington.

Coach Chris Creighton reflected on the defeat against the Huskies.

"We are not going to bow down; we are going to fight and believe in ourselves," he said. "Moving the ball got deep into the end zone, and didn't take the ball until later on."

Creighton also commented on what he is preparing for the rest of the season after today's loss.

"It didn't go how we wanted, but we will learn much from this. I still really like and believe in our team and our capabilities," he said.

Coach Creighton talked about the good that Eastern had played against Washington.

"There were a lot of positives that happened, and we had our chances in our first half, as I think everyone is going to get better from here."

Coach Creighton also had this to say about losing: "Losing on a day or a game does not make you a loser, and we got winners here, as plenty of things we are pleased with we can build on, and we are going to play football until December as it stings, it should, and we are halfway across the country playing, again it's enormously disappointing, but we are going to learn and grow from it."

Catch Eastern Michigan's first home game next week on Sept. 14, with kickoff set for 7 p.m. Tune in on ESPN+ or listen live on WEMU 89.1 FM.

Eagle Tips and Tales: Sept. 10-16

Elena Davis
Sports Editor

Eagle Tips and Tales is back for another exciting week, bringing you the latest on Eastern Michigan University athletics. From competitive volleyball matchups to football's first home game, here's what to expect from Sept. 12-16.

Women's soccer

On Sept. 12, EMU women's soccer travels to Valparaiso for an 8 p.m. game. The Eagles are looking to gain momentum in their season as they take on a road opponent.

Later this week, on Sept. 15, women's soccer will head to Chicago to take on Loyola at 2 p.m. This game will test the Eagles' endurance as they play their second away match of the week.

Women's volleyball

Volleyball is also in action, competing in the Comfort Inn-Vitational in Morehead, Kentucky, from Sept. 13-14. The team plays Evansville at 1 p.m. and Morehead State at 7 p.m. on Friday, followed by a match against Duquesne at 11 a.m. on Saturday. With back-to-back games, it's a busy weekend for the Eagles, facing off against regional rivals.

The team will return home later in the week to face in-state rival Michigan State on Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. in the Convocation Center. Fans can expect a thrilling match as the Eagles look to make a statement against the Spartans.

Football home opener

Sept. 14, marks EMU football's home opener. The Eagles will take on Jacksonville State at 7 p.m. at Rynearson Stadium. Fans can catch the game live on ESPN+ or tune in on WEMU and the Varsity Network. With tickets starting at $8, this under-the-lights matchup promises an electrifying atmosphere as the Eagles look to secure a win in front of the home crowd. Get your tickets here!

Rowing

EMU Rowing takes to the water on September 15 for a race against Michigan at Belleville Lake. Details on the start time are to be announced, but it's sure to be an exciting in-state battle.

Women's golf

The women's golf team will compete in the Leadership and Golf Invitational on Sept. 16 in University Place, Washington. This all-day event brings together some of the top collegiate golfers from across the country.

Don't miss the action! Whether you're attending the games in person or following along online, it's a week full of excitement for EMU Athletics. Be sure to support the Eagles as they compete at home and on the road!

Find more sports coverage on our website!

'The Deliverance' tells the dramatic version of a true story

Mariam Fakhreddine
Review Columnist

Review "The Deliverance" was released to Netflix on August 30 and is full of spirits and demons. It is an interesting take on a movie based on an exorcism of a spirit. This movie features Andra Day as Ebony and Glenn Close as Morgan. The film is based on a true story which makes it more creepy.

The film is about a family living in Indiana, the mother Ebony moves her children into a new home. This home turns out to be full of evil spirits that are targeting the youngest child Andre (Anthony B. Jenkins). The movie has aspects of drama that Ebony surrounds. She almost lost custody of her children due to neglect and drinking. Cynthia (Mo'Nique) the social worker checks on her and her children for most of the film.

Highs

The highs in this movie are minimal. It is mainly centralized around the performances of the actors. The acting of Ebony was good, showing the emotion of a caring but struggling single mother. There were elements of comical humor that helped ease the tension between the mother and children. The acting of Glenn Close as Morgan was entertaining considering she was the more blunt grandma. This gives the movie the humorous aspect that was needed in the household. Another highlight of the film is the makeup of the possession of Andre. It is detailed and creepy which completes the look of a demon.

Lows

The lows within the film are that the plot is confusing. It has to do with the children becoming possessed but the abuse from the mother was unnecessary. It showed that the mother was not paying attention to her children. It was filled with abuse and neglect from the beginning. This takes away from the plot of focusing on the evil spirits.

Another low was that Ebony seemed clueless because of how drunk she became all the time. She was distracted and did not notice her children were being possessed. On the other hand, the grandma would protect the children but not correct her daughter. Grandma would make things worse for the children instead of better.

Ebony opposes her mother for an undisclosed reason, which makes the background of the film poor. For unclear reasons, the father is likewise not present in the lives of the children. More background context would have helped to explain why Ebony was distressed.

The exorcism part of the movie was missing something. Some scenes are reminiscent of the original movie "Exorcism." This could show the movie's inspiration but it was not performed well. It was missing the aspect of the evil spirit becoming very alive.

Verdict

"The Deliverance" is not worth the watch considering elements are missing from making it a true exorcism movie. If there wasn't as much tension and drama throughout, it could've been more focused on the evil spirits.

Rating: 4.5 out of 10

Mariam Fakhreddine is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. She has worked as a news and features reporter for The Echo for two years.

'Untamed Royal' is only surface-deep

Mariam Fakhreddine
Review Columnist

Review On August 28, the Mexican film "Untamed Royals" was released on Netflix. Ximena Lamadrid plays Mariana and co-stars alongside Juan Pablo Fuentes as Xavier and Fernando Cattori as Gerardo. This film is full of toxic and wealthy teenagers, who do not believe in the consequences of their actions.

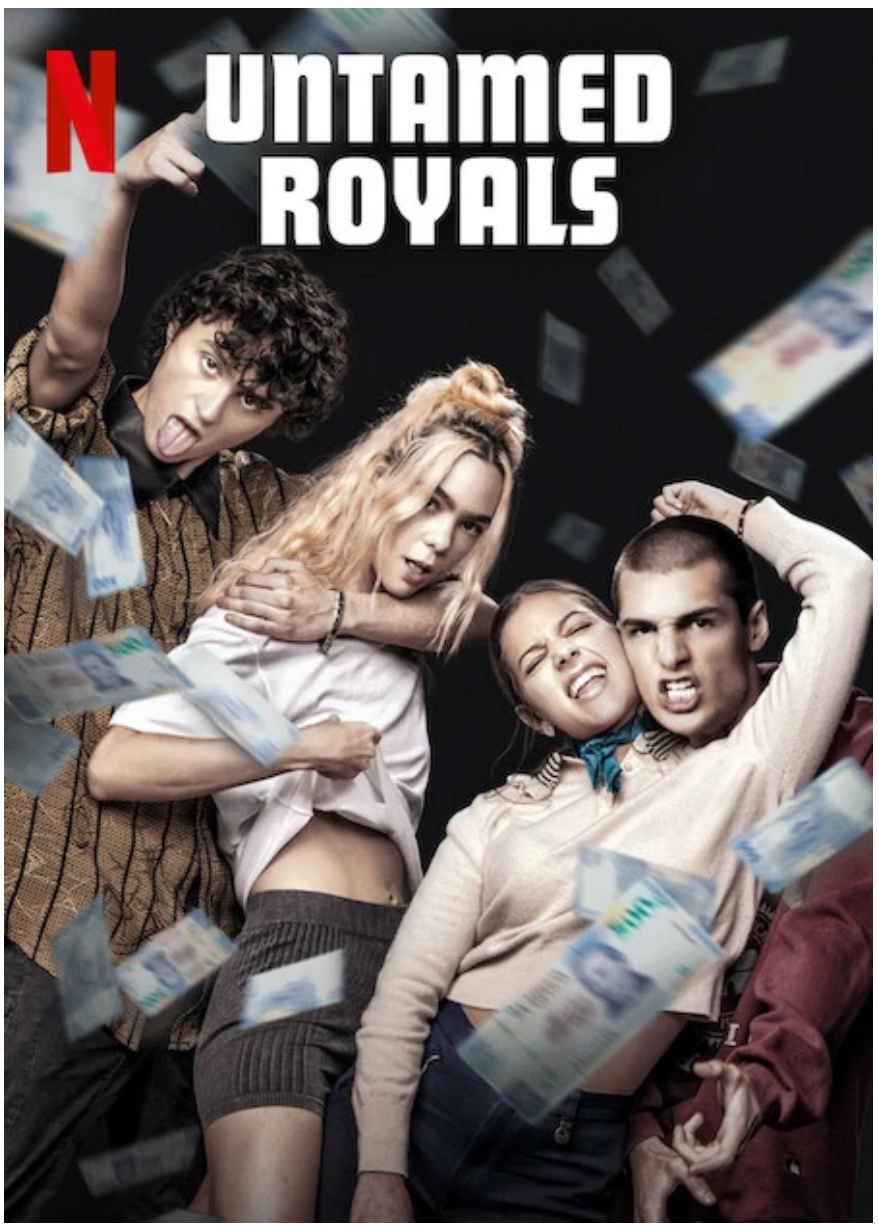
A few wealthy and well-connected teenagers take advantage of their social standing to commit crimes and get away with it, but their lavish lifestyles conceal a sinister reality where the weakest members of society bear most of the consequences. The main teens in connection with these crimes from the beginning are Gerardo and Xavier; they are best friends. Xavier has a bad relationship with his family which makes him want to steal from them and he gets enjoyment out of lying to his family and friends. While Gerardo commits the heists during the movie, it gets dangerous. This is where the consequences come in.

Highs

There aren't many high points in this movie, but the location is a neighborhood full of mansions; it is stunning. Initially, the plot is intriguing as it illustrates a lesson in reality about pampered adolescents who believe they can get away with anything, including murder. Xavier and Gerardo have a close relationship; they support one another no matter what, even when it's wrong.

Another highlight of the movie is how the robbery that is taking place at the beginning keeps the audience interested. After Xavier is shot, the robbery becomes more violent, demonstrating Gerardo's willingness to do anything for money, even shoot his closest friend.

Lamadrid's performance, which is distinct from her earlier films, is another highlight. Throughout the entire movie, her character struggles with anxiety. She expresses her feelings of having a greater consciousness than Xavier and Gerardo. There are serious instances where Mariana tries to act morally but is unable to do so as a result of them.



Lows

The lows within the film surround the plot. Though intriguing, it is confusing and hard to understand. After the robbery instance, it was confusing since it was not clear how the characters were connected. Another low was the family of Xavier considering there was no background information about why he was distant towards them. His father seemed against him rather than protecting him. The family dynamic was also confusing because there were multiple families within this neighborhood.

Another negative point was the lack of sequences featuring these adolescents in high school, making it unclear when these events occurred. Another negative aspect was Gerardo's personality and his need to dominate everyone, even Xavier. When it came to money, he was the most callous and egotistical. When he and Xavier argued, there were times when Gerardo would get upset and try to convince him that he was mistaken.

It was still unclear what mental health problems Xavier was facing. In one of their sessions, he told his therapist that he enjoys lying because it keeps him from being bored. Mariana on the other hand experienced nervous ticks, but the cause of these illnesses was never disclosed. The fact that the parents appeared to be living their own lives and not paying attention to their children was another bad point.

Verdict

Considering how confusing the plot and character relationships are in "Untamed Royal," this film is hardly worth watching. Strong language and explicit content throughout; intended solely for a mature audience.

Rating: 4.5 out of 10

Mariam Fakhreddine is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. She has worked as a news and features reporter for The Echo for two years.

EMU THEATRE SCHEDULE 2024-2025

Ticket Office hours in the Judy Sturgis Hill building are 1-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 90 minutes before show time.

Alice By Heart
October 3-6, 2024 Suggested for ages 13+.

Silent Sky
November 21-24, 2024 Suggested for ages 12+.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
December 6-8*, 2024 Suggested for ages 12+. *Accessible with ASL.

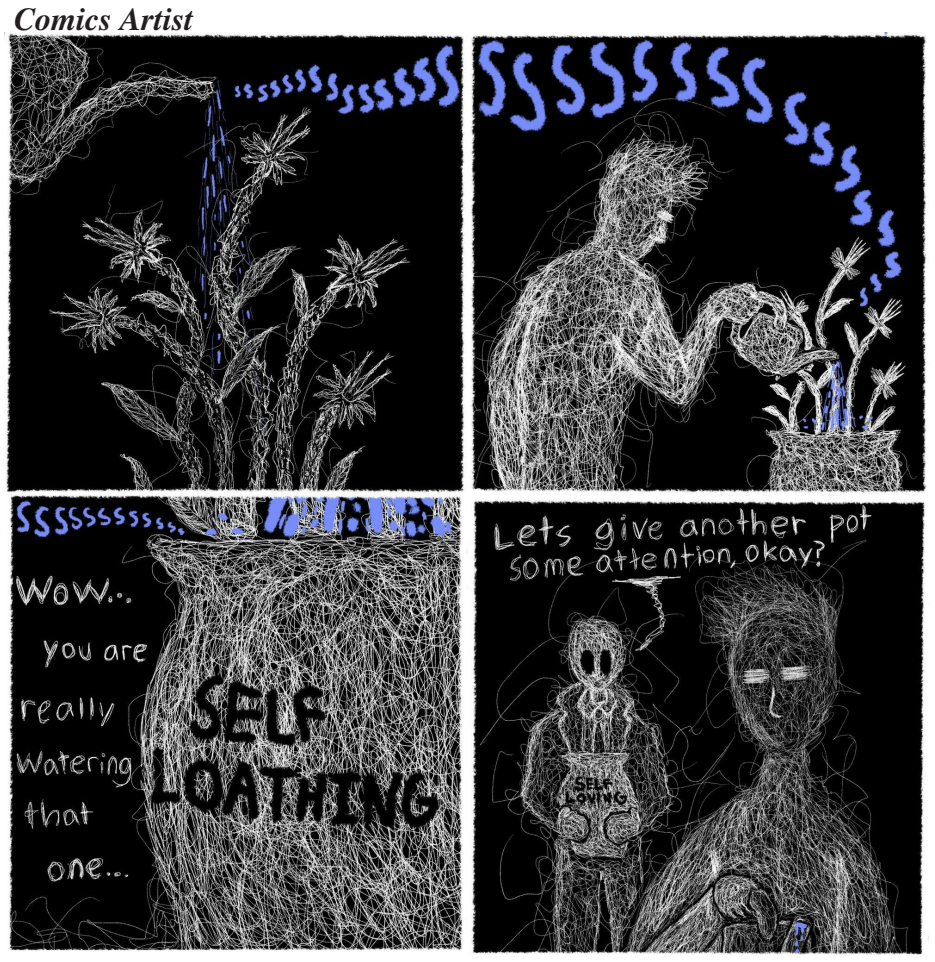
The Rocky Horror Show
February 13-16, 2025 Suggested for mature audiences only.

Cause Play
April 3-6*, 2025 School Matinees April 7 & 8* Suggested for ages 9+. *Accessible with ASL.

The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus
April 11 & 12, 2025 Suggested for ages 5+.

Moonlight Comic: Orientation?
AJ Grams
Comics Artist

Internalized Behavior
Gideon the Ghost
Comics Artist



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 **2** 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk**

	8							
1				4	3			6
		7					5	9
			4	6	2			
6								3
				5	1			
8						4		
9			5	7	8			1
	3						7	

SOLUTION TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

6	2	3	9	7	1	4	8	5
7	4	9	5	8	2	1	3	6
5	1	8	4	3	6	2	7	9
2	8	4	3	6	9	7	5	1
9	7	5	1	2	8	6	4	3
3	6	1	7	4	5	8	9	2
8	9	2	6	5	7	3	1	4
4	5	7	2	1	3	9	6	8
1	3	6	8	9	4	5	2	7

© 2012 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.

The Studio-exclusive holo Lucas Androit from Pokito Productions?!
And a note, too?!
Dear Boon,
Thank you for looking after Reena and offering your
You went all out!!
Thank you!!
BOON

Limited Edition pt. 2
Rylee Curley
Design Chief

Moonlight Comic: Meeting
AJ Grams
Comics Artist

BBQueer is here!

AT LEFT: All the smiling faces that attended BBQueer 2024! The event took place on the Student Center patio on Thursday, September 5. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

See more on our website!

BELOW: Maxi Chanel performing in her first outfit at BBQueer, as Swoop and other students watch on. Max Taylor / The Eastern Echo

Students filling out bingo cards and enjoying their time at BBQueer on September 5 on the Student Center lawn. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

Kristina Kelly performing in her second outfit change at BBQueer. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

Jadein Black speaking to the crowd and announcing bingo numbers at BBQueer. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

Students Gabriella (left), Jade (center), and Gracie (right) smiling for the camera at BBQueer! Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

ABOVE: EMU LGBT Resource Center staff socializing at the end of BBQueer after putting on a successful event. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

AT RIGHT: Students helping themselves to the collection of barbecued goods at BBQueer on Thursday, September 5th outside of the Student Center. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*

Lana Sevol enthusiastically performing a country song for BBQueer on September 5 on the Student Center patio. Max Taylor / *The Eastern Echo*